

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3125

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2375

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, FR, GR, PFOR

SUBJECT: PROMINENT PRESS COVERAGE OF AMBASSADOR KAVALIERATOS'
PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. ALL ATHENS NEWSPAPERS APRIL 20 REPORTED PROMINENTLY
AMBASSADOR PHAEDON KAVALIERATOS' PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS
TO ACTING PRESIDENT ALAIN POHER. PRESS HIGHLIGHTED KAVALIERATOS'
REMARKS ON FRANCO-GREEK FRIENDSHIP BASED ON COMMON CULTURE AND
COMMON INTERESTS. "FRANCO-HELLENIC COOPERATION SHOULD REMAIN IN
STATE OF CONSTANT GROWTH AND BE BASED ON MUTUAL BENEFIT AND
RESPECT." POHER'S RESPONSE WAS REPORTED AS EMPHASIZING FRIENDLY
CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AND AS
INDICATING HOPE THAT SPIRIT OF MODERATION AND MUTUAL
UNDERSTANDING WOULD PREVAIL AMONG NEIGHBORS WITH REGARD
TO MEDITERRANEAN SITUATION. PICTURES OF EVENT APPEARED ON FRONT
PAGE OF PRO-GOG ELEFTHEROS COSMOS.

2. COMMENT: ASSIGNING KAVALIERATOS, MOST RECENTLY ALTERNATE
FOREIGN MINISTER UNDER PAPADOPOULOS REGIME, AND ONE OF GREECE'S
MOST SENIOR AND ABLE DIPLOMATS, TO PARIS DEMONSTRATES HIGH
IMPORTANCE REGIME ATTACHES TO FRANCO-GREEK RELATIONS. EMBASSY
CONSIDERS KAVALIERATOS' ASSIGNMENT TO PARIS MAY IN PART REFLECT
RESULT OF CONTINUING FRENCH EFFORTS TO BUILD UP RELATIONS
WITH GREECE FOR REASONS RELEVANT TO FRENCH COMMERCIAL EFFORTS
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HERE, ESPECIALLY MILITARY SALES. ON GREEK SIDE IT MAY ALSO BE

INTENDED TO INDICATE GREEK APPRECIATION OF ATTITUDE OF FRENCH
GOVT. TOWARD GREEK REGIME, AS WELL AS PROVIDE HINT TO US THAT
IT IS NOT ONLY CLOSE TIES WITH US THAT COUNT IN EYES OF PRESENT
REGIME.
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